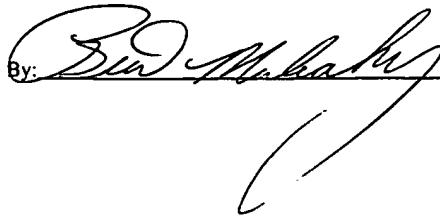


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

On 12-17-01

By: 

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Mark Pool

Application No.: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

For: MECHANISM FOR PROVIDING A  
CONTINUOUS SUPPLY OF WAFERS  
AND CASSETTES TO  
SEMICONDUCTOR FABRICATION  
TOOL

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and  
§1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

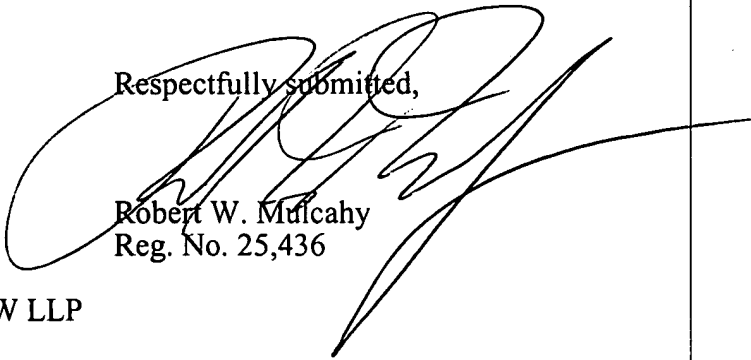
#4 IPS PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: A3138/T44100

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10/022645  
12/17/01

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-1074. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Robert W. Mulcahy  
Reg. No. 25,436

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